

STRATEGIC SERVICES UNIT, WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington, D.C.

Country: Germany/Russian Zone

Subject: Troop Dispositions

[REDACTED]

1. It is reported [REDACTED] from the Russian Zone that the newly arrived Soviet troops have not been generally deployed throughout the zone but have been concentrated in camps and proving grounds where they are held under more rigid military discipline than had previously been customary. Reports from Zossen near Berlin indicate that the camp in this locality has a full complement of troops and materiel.

2. [REDACTED] it was not clear why troops were moved from the southeastern sector of the Russian Zone in Germany through Czechoslovakia. [REDACTED] it is believed in the SMA that this operation is a move by which Russia wishes to influence the Paris Conference. The troops were no longer needed in the Balkans which, in view of their geographic position, can be easily influenced at any time from Russia proper. However, in view of the fact that the European question still remains unsolved, the Moscow Government does not feel that the time is ripe for a permanent redeployment of these troops to Russia. After the Paris Conference, [REDACTED] a part of these Russian troops is to be demobilized and returned to Russia by sea via Stettin; another part is to be deployed throughout Germany as occupation troops after the German municipal elections.

[REDACTED]

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